



Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, DC 20231
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WAK
Paper Number 33

In re Application of
Peter Miller
Serial No.: 09/242, 072
Filed: January 14, 2000
For: APPARATUS FOR LIQUID PURIFICATION

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DECISION ON
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PETITION
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This is a Decision on the Petition filed under 37 C.F.R. 1.181 on September 5, 2002. The Petition request that Applicant's "Response III", filed August 16, 2002 be treated as being filed timely and as basis for determining a declaration of allowance. Applicant further comments in his petition that the final rejection mailed March 13, 2002 cannot be justified.

The Examiner has considered Applicant's response filed August 16, 2002 and an advisory action was mailed December 12, 2002. The final rejection dated March 13, 2002 is not premature and is justified because the only new grounds of objection and rejection contained in the office action were necessitated by Applicant's amendment filed November 20, 2001. This amendment introduced new matter into both the specification and claims. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new grounds(s) of rejection presented in the office action.

The PETITION is dismissed.

The period for reply expires 6 months from the mailing date of the final rejection. The final rejection was mailed on March 13, 2002. The application is abandoned because the maximum extendable period for reply has expired.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Stone", is written over a horizontal line.

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